

BOROUGH OF



DORCHESTER



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1963

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman - Alderman H.G. LONGMAN

Vice Chairman - Councillor H.G. READ

Councillor Mrs. E.K. HALLETT, J.P.	Councillor R.R. COLLINS
Councillor F. GREEN	Councillor J.M. MATTHEWS, B.Sc.
Councillor H.C. PEARCE	Councillor F.D. HOLMES
Councillor W.H. CHRISTOPHER	Councillor H. DURRANT

Councillor Mrs. G.G. POWELL

Ex-officio Councillor W.E. BOWERING, J.P., Mayor

STAFF - HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health (Part time) I.B. LAWRENCE, B.Sc., M.B., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health for Dorchester Rural District Council
and Senior Assistant County Medical Officer of Health. Time allocated
for duties with your Council, two half days per week.

Clerical Assistant to Medical Officer Miss B.J. GREENING

Same allocation of time as Medical Officer of Health.

Senior Public Health Inspector	C.F. ALLARD, D.P.A., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	D.A. DOLPHIN, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Meat Inspector	S.G. HALL
General Assistant	B.A. GALE
Clerical Assistant to Inspectors (Temporary - part time)	Mrs. D.A. JORDAN
Rodent Operator (part time)	F. KING (25.3.63 to 4.10.63)

The Public Health Inspectors and Meat Inspector
are engaged on full time duties.

Tel: Dorchester 1000

Health Centre,
Glyde Path Road,
Dorchester.

The Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Dorchester.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fourteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough of Dorchester for the year 1963. It is written on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health.

An outbreak of measles, which commenced in April, continued throughout the year. Two isolated cases of scarlet fever were notified. Dysentery was reported during the summer months, fifty-two cases in all.

Following the outbreak of Typhoid at Zermatt, investigations revealed that two persons had been on holiday there - they were checked and found to be satisfactory.

One of the features of 1963 was the abnormal and prolonged cold weather and snow at the beginning of the year, with its resultant freezing pipes, leading to the necessity of carrying water in some cases, closure of schools because the toilets were frozen and, in some cases, to bursts in houses when the thaw occurred. This affected old people especially - a report was made to the Council recommending consideration of some form of central heating in old people's bungalows.

The water (although hard) which supplies Dorchester has been excellent over a period of years, but owing to the overflow of sewage, due to wanton blocking of a manhole, some temporary pollution occurred, fortunately chlorination safeguarded the supply; this is now carried out by an automatic dosage chlorinator. Subsequent samples taken from the source have proved entirely satisfactory.

The sampling of sewers and drains still continues and any potentially dangerous organisms found would be investigated and traced, which would have been very useful if a typhoid case or carrier had come to stay in Dorchester.

In September, all new entrants to the infant schools were offered a booster dose of polio vaccine.

The new Meat Inspection Regulations came into operation on 1st October. These require a more detailed examination of each carcass and a 100% inspection of all animals. This has increased the amount of time spent on meat inspection.

Reports were made to the Council on National Census figures relating to the Borough, food poisoning in England and Wales in 1962 and a further report on fluoridation of water supplies.

The Senior Public Health Inspector submitted a Report on the present state of Housing in the Borough.

The survey of trade wastes entering the Public Sewers is still continuing and a final report will not be available until next year.

If I may look back in this my last Report, I feel much has been achieved by the Council, especially in the reconditioning of the sewage works, the construction of the new reservoir, the building of a number of houses for the old people, and the clearance of numerous unfit houses (I had hoped that the unfit houses remaining in the scheme would also have been dealt with before I retired).

Probably the greatest achievement in the last two decades has been the control of infectious diseases by the use of immunisation procedure. This, by the way, was impossible without the co-operation of the parents. Diphtheria is now rare, polio is following a similar path, tetanus protection is proceeding very well and the response to B.C.G. in schools to prevent Tuberculosis is good. Much research is now going on to control the virus diseases and a vaccine against measles is on trial.

Regarding the future of Public Health, the investigation, control and possibly even immunisation against the present day killers such as Cancer, Coronary disease, and the incapacitating diseases such as Rheumatism, Arthritis, Asthma and Bronchitis, will test the ingenuity of everyone concerned with Preventative Medicine.

May I express my thanks again to the Mayor, Aldermen and members of the Council, especially to Alderman Longman as Chairman of the Health Committee, for their co-operation during the past year and previous years, which is so important to an Officer in his work; and to Mr. Allard who has been a great support to me and a loyal and understanding colleague, plus all the public health staff. My thanks also to the heads and staff of the other departments, both present and retired, for their continued help and ready co-operation in all matters.

Your obedient Servant,

J.B. Lawrence.
Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

(Figures for 1962 shown in brackets)

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,675 acres
Resident Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,890 (12,750)
Number of houses inhabited at the end of 1962	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,855 (3,710)
Rateable Value as at 31st March, 1964 (estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£626,000 (£203,904)
Sum represented by Penny Rate (1963-1964)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£2,280 (£795)

VITAL STATISTICS

Population - Estimate for Births and Deaths 12,890

Comparability Factor	Births	1.07
	Deaths	0.78

<u>Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Legitimate	102	81	183	
Illegitimate	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	
Totals	<u>107</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>193</u>	(204)

<u>Still Births</u>				
Legitimate	7	2	9	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
Totals	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>	(2)

<u>Deaths - All Causes</u>	86	99	185	(210)
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<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year (Infant Mortality)</u>				
Legitimate	3	2	5	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
Totals	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	(5)

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks (Neo-Natal Mortality)</u>				
Legitimate	3	2	5	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
Totals	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	(2)

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 week (Early Neo-Natal Mortality)</u>				
Legitimate	1	2	3	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	(2)

				<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>
Birth Rate x Comparability Factor ...	...	...	...	16.75	16.76	14.6
Birth Rate for England and Wales ...	...	...	...	18.2	18.0	17.4
Death Rate x Comparability Factor ...	...	...	...	11.19	14.65	12.5
Death Rate for England and Wales ...	...	...	...	12.2	11.9	12.0
Infant Mortality Rate ...	...	...	...	24.75	24.5	18.0
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales ...	...	...	...	20.9	21.4	21.4

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	-	-	-	(-)
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	(-)
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	(1)
Diphtheria	-	-	-	(-)
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	(-)
Meningitis	-	-	-	(-)
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	(-)
Measles	-	-	-	(-)
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	(-)
Cancer of stomach	-	1	1	(1)
Cancer of lung, bronchus	4	2	6	(5)
Cancer of breast	-	2	2	(2)
Cancer of uterus	-	-	-	(-)
Other cancers	5	6	11	(20)
Acute Anaemia	-	1	1	(2)
Diabetes	1	1	2	(-)
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	26	37	(42)
Coronary Disease, Angina	26	17	43	(38)
High Blood Pressure with Heart Disease	2	1	3	(3)
Other Heart Disease	2	10	12	(31)
Other circulatory disease	-	4	4	(6)
Influenza	-	-	-	(3)
Pneumonia	6	9	15	(11)
Bronchitis	6	1	7	(8)
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	(3)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1	(1)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	(1)
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1	(1)
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1	(2)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	(-)
Congenital Malformations	4	-	4	(3)
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	13	25	(19)
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1	(4)
All other accidents	3	4	7	(3)
Suicide	1	-	1	(-)
All Causes	86	99	185	(210)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table summarises the notifications of infectious diseases made during the year:-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases Notified</u>										<u>A.U.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Cases admitted</u>		<u>Deaths</u>
	<u>Age Periods</u>												<u>Hospital</u>	<u>to</u>	
	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65+						
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Measles	2	27	27	72	5	-	1	-	-	4	138	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	1	-	8	-	-	-	
Dysentery	-	4	7	21	5	-	15	-	-	-	52	-	-	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION STATISTICS - 1963

The following figures have been given by the County Council:-

B.C.G.	POLIOMYELITIS			DIPHTHERIA		WHOOPIG COUGH		TETANUS		SMALLPOX	
	P.	3rd	4th	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.
288	(237) 7	(31) 31	(300) 15	165	139	153	70	194	126	20	11

P = Primary B = Booster
Figures in brackets = Oral polio

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 1963, the following cases and deaths from Tuberculosis were notified:- (figures for 1962 shown in brackets)

Age Periods	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	Respiratory Male	Non-Respiratory Female	Respiratory Male	Non-Respiratory Female	Respiratory Male	Non-Respiratory Female	Respiratory Male	Non-Respiratory Female
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1(1)	1(2)	1(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)

It is again to be noted that the new cases did not occur in the teenage group.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Once again I wish to thank Dr. T.V. Cooper of the County Laboratory and Dr. G.H. Tee of the Public Health Laboratory and their staff for their continued help and co-operation during the year

The following is a table of specimens submitted to the Laboratories: it is to be noted in this table, the large increase in sewage samples (Moore's swabs) which have been tested in the Public Health Laboratory (Totals for 1962 shown in brackets):-

Throat Swabs ...	4(5)	Milk	259(224)
Faeces	102(14)	Ice Cream	44 (61)
Blood	6(10)	Water	435(258)
Sputum	19(30)	Sewage	505(309)
		Miscellaneous ...	1,183(121)

HOUSING

<u>Council Houses</u>	<u>In process of erection</u>	<u>Completed in 1963</u>	<u>Completed since war</u>
Temporary	-	-	-
Permanent			
Traditional type	-	42 flats	546
Non-traditional type	-	-	-
Converted into flats	-	-	9 *
Number of Council Houses (pre-war)	-	-	272
Number of post war houses completed and occupied at 31.12.63 (excluding the converted flats)	-	-	546
Total number of Council Houses and flats at 31.12.63 (excluding the converted flats)	-	-	818

* This includes 4 flats from Corporate property not let under the Housing Act.

Improvement Grants

Of the 57 applications, 53 were granted, 3 were refused and 1 was withdrawn.

I again wish to stress the urgent need to build more houses for old people and to rehouse families living in unfit properties - until houses are built, these remaining families cannot be rehoused.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT - SECTION 47

Four new cases were reported during the year, in three of the cases the provision of a home help, in one case temporary, enabled the cases to remain at home; the fourth case, after encouragement, improved considerably and now conditions are satisfactory.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

To call the ambulance for routine work, ring Dorchester 1761-3, in an emergency ask the exchange for ambulance; always state urgency, nature of case, full address and which ambulance is required, e.g. sitting or stretcher case.

PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION

A weekly refuse collection is carried out and the disposal site is situated in the Rural District. The site is well maintained and the use of a bulldozer has greatly helped in levelling and covering the open face, thus reducing any nuisance from flies, and by compression of the top, obliterating holes where rats could breed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION
(Continued)

The site will soon be completely filled and a new disposal place will be necessary.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND WATER MAINS

I am indebted to Mr. Strange, the Borough Surveyor, for the following information regarding extensions to the water mains and sewers for the year ending 31st December, 1963.

Water Mains

West Mills Road	...	...	...	4"	125 yards
Millers Close - Poundbury Camp	...		...	4"	410 yards
St. Georges Close	...	...	...	3"	110 yards
Mill Street	...	...	...	3"	187 yards
Wellbridge Close	...	...	...	3"	110 yards

Sewers - Council Development

New Low Level Sewer	...	...	...	15"	153 yards
New Low Level Sewer	...	...	...	21"	375 yards
New Low Level Sewer	...	...	...	24"	933 yards
Poundbury Caravan Site	...	...	...	6"	90 yards

Sewers - Private Development

West Mills Road	...	...	...	9"	105 yards
West Mills Road	...	...	...	6"	50 yards
St. Georges Close	...	...	...	6"	103 yards
Mill Street	...	...	...	9"	137 yards
Mill Street	...	...	...	6"	150 yards
Wellbridge Close	...	...	...	6"	110 yards

WATER SUPPLIES

Co-operation between the Surveyor and the Health Department was maintained on the results of regular bacteriological samples and copies of chemical samples are sent to us. Any local contamination at individual premises is checked and re-sampled.

The value of this co-operation was shown during the temporary pollution of the supply in July, when the two departments co-ordinated in the sampling at the waterworks and service pipes and in the subsequent actions necessary, following the overflowing of a sewer on to the land not far distant from the source of supply.

The chemical samples show the Fluoride content to be low, less than 0.05 parts per million, the recommended dose for Fluoridation of water supplies to prevent dental decay is 1 part per million.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths, but there are baths at three schools. The water in all is chlorinated and sampled by the County Council's Health Department.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance - clear	Taste and odour - normal
Colour - colourless	pH Value - 7.0
Free chlorine - not detected	
Total Solid Residue (dried at 180°C)	320
Suspended Matter (dried at 105°C)	nil
Chlorine as chloride	30
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (free ammonia expressed as N)	less than 0.005
Albuminoid Nitrogen (expressed as N)	0.016
Nitrate (expressed as N)	0.4
Nitrite (expressed as N)	less than 0.005
Total Alkalinity (as Calcium Carbonate)	190
Hardness (Total)	240
Hardness (Temporary)	190
Hardness (Permanent)	50
Metals - Poisonous (as elements)	Absent
Oxygen absorption from Permanganate solution in 4 hours at 27°C	0.3
Fluorine	less than 0.05

Remarks: From a chemical aspect this water is suitable for a public supply. The fluorine content is low.

Date: 9th April, 1963

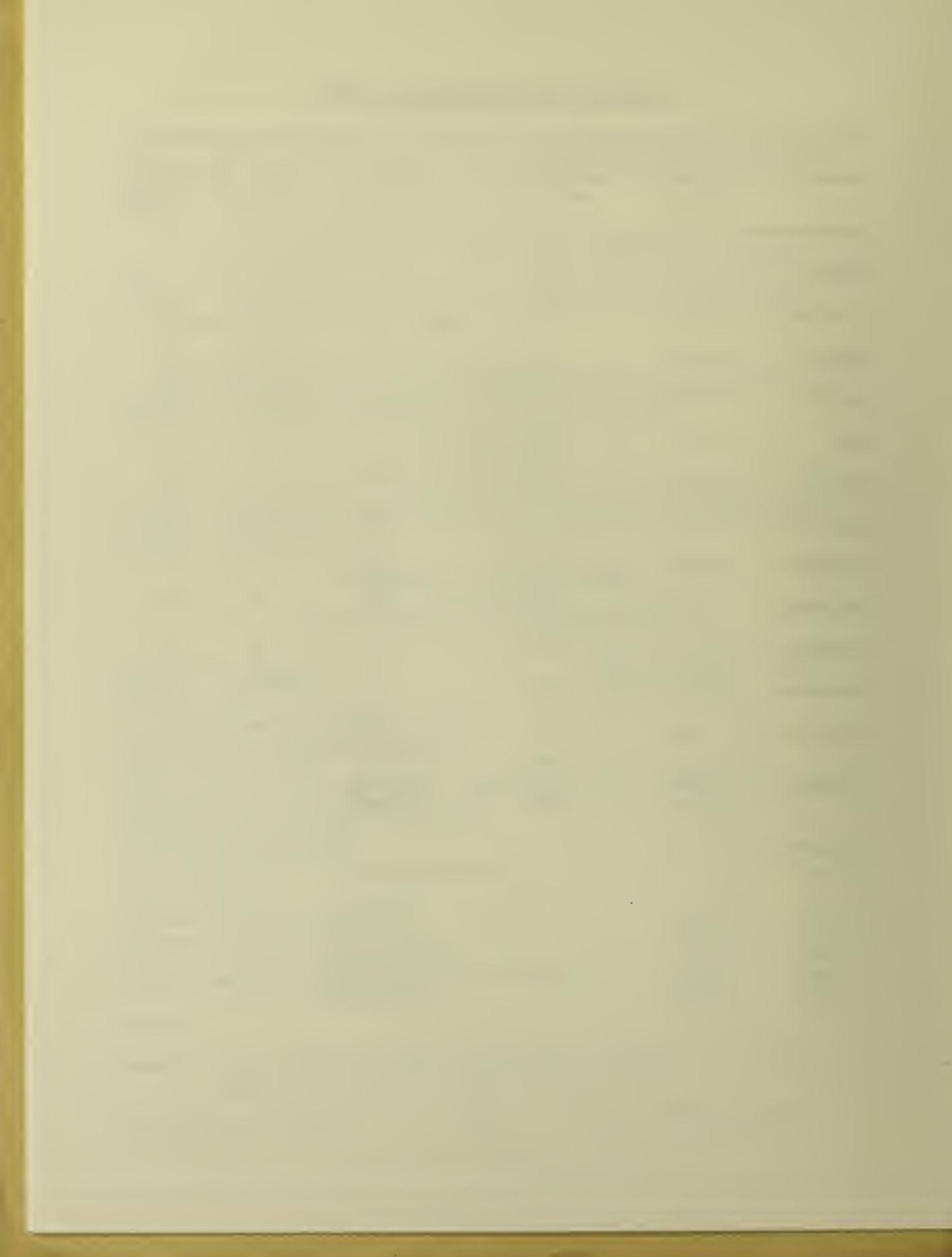
PUBLIC ANALYST

METEOROLOGICAL DETAILS - YEAR 1963

Month	Rainfall inches	Rain fell on these days	Sunshine hours	Temp. in deg. F. Maximum Minimum	
January	.77	3	64	37	2
February	2.29	7	69	44	11
March	2.29	7	69	44	11
April	4.04	17	100	65	25
May	1.87	12	174	68	27
June	3.27	13	166 $\frac{1}{2}$	79	38
July	1.94	9	173	79	32
August	3.65	14	122	75	34
September	4.05	12	106	72	32
October	2.38	15	64	62	30
November	8.34	30	63	62	27
December	2.66	11	36	60	21
Totals	<u>37.55</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>1,206$\frac{1}{2}$</u>		

Totals:-
(Year)

1962	36.58	1,263.30
1961	41.48	1,593.40
1960	58.38	1,579.04
1959	38.60	1,611.25
1958	44.79	1,282.90



Telephone (Office):
Dorchester 934.

Public Health Inspectors' Office,
North Square,
DORCHESTER.

May, 1964.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Dorchester.

Annual Report for 1963.

I present for your consideration the following report
on our work in 1963.

For many years one of the major parts of our work has been meat inspection. In the middle of the year the Government made the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, which came into force on 1st October. The Regulations made it obligatory on local authorities to inspect the carcasses and offals of all animals slaughtered for food. As a result of the standards laid down in the Regulations it became necessary to increase the time spent by your inspectors on meat inspection, and it was fortunate that the Council had appointed a full-time Meat Inspector in 1961.

The Public Health Inspectors were also made responsible for the administration of Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

In 1949 the Gowers Committee reported on the need for legislation to cover the environmental conditions of eight million office and shop workers. The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, to come into force in 1964, will apply to more than four hundred premises in the Borough. The Council will be responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Act at about three hundred and thirty premises.

I am grateful for the support received from members of the Council and for the help and advice of the chief officers and my other colleagues. To Mr. Davison, who retired as Borough Surveyor early in 1963, and to Dr. Lawrence, who retires as Medical Officer of Health within a few weeks of my writing this report, I would express my thanks for the happy associations enjoyed with them since 1951.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

1. INSPECTIONS - 1963.

Under the Housing Acts:

Inspection of dwelling houses	62
Re-inspection of dwelling houses	164
Visits re overcrowding	9
Unclassified	18
	<hr/> 253

Under the Food and Drugs Acts:

Inspection and visits re unsound food	112
Inspection of food premises (including visits for sampling only)	266
Visits re notified or suspected cases of food poisoning	6
Visits to slaughterhouses	1,134
Visits to dairies	7
Unclassified	6
	<hr/> 1,531

Under the Public Health Acts:

Inspection and/or testing of sewers/drains (including soil and ventilating pipes)	453
Inspection of closets and cesspools	17
Inspection of filthy or verminous premises	53
Inspection of public conveniences	5
Inspection for detection and abatement of statutory nuisances	144
Inspection and sampling of water supplies	190
Enquiries and visits re infectious diseases	680
Inspection of tents, vans and sheds	12
Unclassified	92
	<hr/> 1,646

Under the Factories Act:

Inspection of factories	13
Visits to outworkers' premises	-
Unclassified	-
	<hr/> 13

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act:

(excluding visits by the rodent operator)	359
Other visits	33
	<hr/> 392

Under the Shops Acts:

3

Under the Petroleum Acts:

97

Under the Pet Animals Act:

-

100

3,935

The total of 3,935 inspections includes 324 visits made by the General Assistant.

2. COMPLAINTS- 1963.

Disrepair of houses	18
Overcrowding or other inadequate housing conditions	4
Unsound food or unsatisfactory conditions in food premises	22
Defective and/or choked drains, sewers, closets, cesspools, etc.	24
Verminous and/or filthy premises	21
Keeping of animals in insanitary conditions	3
Offensive accumulations or deposits	11
Other public health nuisances	20
Rats and mice	82
Unclassified	<u>2</u>
	207

3. NOTICES - 1963.

	<u>Informal Notices</u>		<u>Formal Notices</u>	
	Served	Complied with	Served	Complied with
Under Public Health Acts	67	21	3	1
Under Housing Acts	-	-	-	-
Under Food and Drugs Acts	8	7	-	-
Under Factories Acts	4	4	-	-
Under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	-	-	-	-
Under Petroleum Acts	13	1	-	-
Under Shops Acts	1	-	-	-
Under Clean Air Act	1	-	-	-
	<u>94</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

4. HOUSING.

In May, 1955, the Council approved a scheme of clearance and demolition of 228 properties. The houses had been provisionally scheduled as unfit and suitable for inclusion in Clearance Areas or to be dealt with individually by Demolition Order or Closing Order. Clearance Areas are dealt with by the Clearance and Redevelopment Committee; individual houses by the Health Committee and the rehousing of the tenants by the Housing Committee.

At the end of the year the progress made in the scheme was as follows:-

No. of houses in scheme approved May, 1955:

Occupied (198 tenancies)	201
Vacant	27
	<hr/>
Total	228

Progress to end of 1963:

Demolished	134
Closed	14
Excluded by Committee	8
Reconditioned	6
Vacant	3
Occupied	63
	<hr/>
Total	228

Early in the year details were submitted to the Clearance and Redevelopment Committee on the houses to be dealt with to complete the Council's programme. The report showed that particulars had been submitted of all the scheduled properties except twenty and indicated the minimum re-housing needs of tenants occupying the houses previously considered. The minimum re-housing requirements for forty-two families were:-

25	1 - bedroom units
10	2 - bedroom units
6	3 - bedroom units
1	4 - bedroom unit

After the Council had dealt with these properties and the twenty houses referred to above to complete the scheme, it was suggested that there should be a future programme of approximately fifty-five houses.

Action by the Clearance and Redevelopment Committee on the houses was deferred and instructions given to submit details to the Health Committee, whenever appropriate, to secure the closing of the houses. This was a continuation of the policy of closing individual houses in suggested Clearance Areas when any of the houses become vacant. This can be successfully achieved when the tenants are offered housing accommodation by the Housing Committee, but in other cases the houses are often re-let before official action can be taken.

At the end of the year a report was submitted to the Health Committee outlining the position with regard to all the outstanding properties in the Council's scheme and indicating the suggested future programme.

Progress on the scheme of clearance and demolition must necessarily be geared to the progress made in the provision of houses for the tenants of the unfit houses. The building of 100 to 120 houses by the Housing Committee for letting to such tenants would enable the present and future schemes to be carried through to completion.

Summary of Progress - 1963.

Clearance Areas. No Clearance Areas were declared during the year. Demolitions were completed under two Clearance Orders and consideration given to the unsightly condition of the sites of a number of demolished houses.

Individual Houses. The following Demolition and Closing Orders were made:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Persons displaced</u>
40, Holloway Road	Closing Order made 11.6.63.	5 - Rehoused 17.6.63.
2, Pound Lane	Demolition Order made 7.5.63.	1 - Rehoused 20.5.63.

Two properties were demolished, one following a Demolition Order and one informally by the owners.

Rehousing. Two families from unfit houses were rehoused by the Council.

Housing Repairs and Improvements. A small number of the older tenanted houses in the Borough could be reconditioned, but most owners regard any extensive reconditioning as uneconomic, and are not willing to carry out repairs other than those necessary "to keep the houses going". If the Council made discretionary grants some of the owners might be encouraged to recondition their properties, but I am doubtful whether such a policy would have very much success. However, in some of the borderline cases it could have the effect of saving a house.

Repairs to housing defects were completed at seventeen houses, and an interesting scheme of reconditioning and conversion to one dwelling was completed to the two (formerly three) cottages, which included the well-known Hangan's Cottage.

Only a small number of tenanted houses are being improved by means of standard grants, but further consideration will no doubt be given to this matter when the new Housing Bill becomes law. The Bill contains provisions to give local authorities some powers to enforce improvement. In 1963 fifty-seven applications for standard grants were received, of which fifty-three were approved, three refused and one withdrawn.

Rent Act, 1957. No applications for a certificate of disrepair were received during the year.

5. FOOD PREMISES.

The list of food premises, wholesalers and retailers, was revised and reclassified at the end of the year as follows:-

PART A.-WHOLESALEERS, MANUFACTURERS, PROCESSORS, ETC.

Slaughterhouses	2
Wholesale Butchers	3
Meat Transporters	4
Wholesalers	3
Manufacturers	2
Processors	3
	<hr/>
	17
	<hr/>

PART B.-FOOD RETAILERS.

Butchers	11
Fishmongers - Wet and dried	3
Fishmongers - Fried	4
Milk Distributors	
From premises <u>within</u> the Borough	4
From premises <u>outside</u> the Borough	2
Bread Distributors	
From premises <u>within</u> the Borough	1
At premises <u>within</u> the Borough	
i.e. not operating a retail round	5
From premises <u>outside</u> the Borough	3
Grocers, Provision Merchants and	
General Shops	44
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	5
Sugar Confectioners	16
	<hr/>
	98
	<hr/>

PART C.-CATERING PREMISES.

Hotels	13
Restaurants and Cafes	18
Works Canteens	4
School Canteens	10
Hospitals	3
Residential Catering Premises	6
Public Houses without catering	
facilities (other than snacks)	18
Occasional Catering Premises	20
	<hr/>
	92
	<hr/>

PART D - OTHER PREMISES.

Off-Licences	3
Licensed Clubs	7
Guest Houses	2
Food Stalls (approx.)	22
House-to House Traders	2
	<u>36</u>

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, at 31st December, 1963 and of inspections made (including visits for sampling) is as follows:-

	<u>No. registered</u>	<u>No. of inspections</u>
For the sale, or manufacture, or storage of ice-cream	58	38
For the preparation or manufacture of meat products or preserved foods	6	2

The number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, and of inspections made is as follows:-

Distributors with premises within the Borough	4
Distributors trading from outside the Borough	2
Retail shops selling bottled milk only	31
	<u>37</u>

Number of inspections 7

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, the work of licensing dealers in pasteurised, sterilised and tuberculin tested milk is the responsibility of the Dorset County Council, who are the Food and Drugs Authority. In 1963 sampling officers took two hundred and fifty-nine samples of milk supplies in the Borough. All except ten passed the statutory tests.

In conjunction with the County Health Department a complaint of sour milk retailed from a shop was investigated. Within a period of a week six samples from three shops failed the methylene blue test for keeping quality. Enquiries revealed that as a result of the failure of retailers to rotate their stocks correctly, stale milk was being sold to the public.

6. FOOD HYGIENE.

The total number of visits to food premises for all purposes was two hundred and sixty-six. Improvements were required to five premises. The open front of a fishmonger's shop was replaced by a closed front and the premises modernised. There are now no open-fronted fish shops in the Borough.

About twenty-two traders sell food from stalls in the streets and in Dorchester Market. One hundred and thirty-six inspections of the stalls were made under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

7. FOOD INSPECTION.

ICE-CREAM. Forty-four samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results of which were:-

	<u>Bulk</u> <u>Ice-cream</u>	<u>Pre-packed</u> <u>Ice-cream</u>
Provisional Grade 1	10	25
Provisional Grade 2	5	3
Provisional Grade 3	-	1
Provisional Grade 4	-	-
	<hr/> 15 <hr/>	<hr/> 29 <hr/>

Other foods.

Among the complaints and other matters dealt with were the following:-

- (i) A suggestion that illness had been caused by the consumption of Cornish pasties. Investigations did not show evidence to support the complaint.
- (ii) A complaint of an unsound salmon sandwich which investigation revealed had been prepared one day and sold the next. The cafe proprietor was advised to prepare fresh sandwiches each day.
- (iii) A complaint of an unsound can of corned beef. Enquiries showed this to be an isolated incident.
- (iv) A complaint of unsound pork sausages. Upon investigation the complaint was found to be justified and unsound sausages were found on display at the shop. Proceedings were instituted under section 8 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the defendants fined £10 on each of the two charges.
- (v) A complaint of unsound sausage rolls. The investigation showed that this was due to lack of proper stock rotation and the proprietor was warned to operate a satisfactory system of rotation.
- (vi) A complaint of curdled canned cream, which was found to be due to stock having been exposed to extremely low temperatures in the severe winter.
- (vii) A complaint of ants in chocolate rolls which it was found had been stored near lettuces and similar goods likely to have been the source of the insects.
- (viii) A complaint of the condition of a sausage roll which it was found had been heated more than once. The proprietor was warned.
- (ix) A complaint of the abnormal taste of cream in a cream bun. Laboratory tests did not reveal the cause and the matter was referred to the district in which the bakery was situated.
- (x) A complaint of the abnormal odour of meat (veal), which appeared to be due to uncleanness in carcase dressing. The meat was withdrawn from sale.

- (xi) A complaint of an unsound sausage roll. This was the result of lack of proper stock rotation. A quantity of sausage rolls were seized at the shop under section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and taken before a Justice of the Peace, who issued a condemnation order.
- (xii) A complaint of unsound pork which was not confirmed.
- (xiii) A complaint of an unsound frozen chicken product. There was no evidence to suggest that the fault was in the local shop and the manufacturers were unable to give an explanation.
- (xiv) A complaint of unsound pork sausages. The evidence obtained was conflicting and no further action was taken.

Some concern was felt by the Health Committee that a number of the food complaints indicated that the stocks of perishable foods in some shops were not being properly rotated. As a result from time to time stale or unsound foods were being sold to the public.

This is a problem which is not confined to Dorchester, but on account of the increasing manufacture of perishable foods it is imperative that each shop should have a satisfactory system of stock rotation. The Committee decided that the proprietors of each food shop should be warned that they were expected to have their own coding system for perishable foods, and if a satisfactory system was not evident when a food complaint was investigated, this would be taken note of when proceedings were considered.

The warning was followed by a visit from an inspector to discuss and advise on the problem. Many shops were found to be operating a satisfactory system, but too many were relying on placing new stock behind old stock without marking or coding. It was sometimes difficult to persuade these shopkeepers that a coding system was essential to reduce the risk of human error.

The Department took part in the survey of meat and products which was undertaken by Dr. Tee of the Public Health Laboratory. A number of samples were submitted from slaughterhouses, butchers and grocers and examined for salmonellae (food poisoning organisms.) Samples were also taken of open pet foods on sale in food shops and of watercress, and submitted for similar examination.

Unsound food.

The quantities of food found to be unsound and voluntarily surrendered to the department for disposal are shown in the following table. The food is surrendered at the office of the inspectors and disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

Canned or other pre-packed foods:

497	lbs.	Meat or Fish	(105 packs)
129	lbs.	Fruit	(102 packs)
46	lbs.	Vegetables	(38 packs)
3	lbs.	Soup	(6 packs)
18	lbs.	Milk	(38 packs)
5	lbs.	Jam	(5 packs)
17	lbs.	Other pre-packed foods	(19 packs)

Other foods:

236	lbs.	Meat and meat products
14	lbs.	Fish
40	lbs.	Poultry
138	lbs.	Vegetables
112	lbs.	Potato mash powder
5	lbs.	Tea
691	lbs.	Biscuits

Total Weight: 1,951 lbs.

8. MEAT INSPECTION.

Two premises within the Borough continued in use as licensed private slaughterhouses. Both slaughterhouses are operated by wholesale butchers supplying the London markets and towns over a wide area.

The Construction Regulations, under which the standards of construction, equipment and hygiene are specified, have been in operation in the Borough from 1st October, 1962. At that date one slaughterhouse complied with the Regulations and by the middle of 1963 the outstanding works at the other slaughterhouse had been completed.

On 1st October, 1963, the Meat Inspection Regulations came into force. They place upon local authorities the duty of inspecting, in accordance with detailed criteria, the carcase and organs of every animal slaughtered. Previously the inspection standard was in the form of recommendations. Now the standard is obligatory and the inspector, however well experienced, is allowed no discretion.

The Regulations failed to give local authorities effective power to control the hours of slaughter, which power the trade has always opposed.

The trade was unsuccessful, however, in its opposition to the introduction of a charge by local authorities for meat inspection. On the recommendation of the Health Committee the Council decided to impose the maximum charges and this brought a sharp protest from one of the slaughtering companies. It was decided that further consideration should be given to the matter after the Regulations had been in force for a year. Most local authorities have imposed the maximum charges and Dorchester Borough Council is not alone in receiving trade protests.

The Council employs a full-time Meat Inspector and meat inspection is also carried out by the two Public Health Inspectors. Slaughtering takes place at one or both of the slaughterhouses on almost every day of the year, and, inevitably, the new regulations led to longer hours of inspection.

The final form of the Meat Inspection Regulations, the outcome of some years of discussions, was not known until July. I am pleased to record that the difficulties of bringing the Regulations into effect in just over two months were considerably reduced by the co-operation received from the two slaughtering companies.

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
No. of animals slaughtered	55,048	56,045
No. of animals inspected	54,997	55,927
No. of whole carcasses rejected	420	276
Approximate weight of meat and offals rejected (tons)		
(a) for tuberculosis	1	1
(b) for other conditions	46	35

The principal causes for the rejection as unfit for human consumption, classified in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, are shown on page 24. The higher number of rejections compared with 1962 is thought to be due to the increased number of animals sent for casualty or emergency slaughter.

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>ex. Cows.</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Actinobacillosis (generalised)	-	-	-	1	-
Anaemia, advanced	-	-	-	1	1
Blackleg	1	-	-	-	-
Bruising, extensive and severe	1	1	4	8	1
Emaciation, pathological	2	12	1	14	14
Fever (including salmonellosis)	3	4	30	7	7
Immaturity	-	-	10	7	3
Jaundice	-	1	6	5	2
Mastitis, acute septic	-	11	-	2	1
Metritis, acute septic	-	4	-	4	-
Abnormal odour	-	-	1	-	1
Oedema, generalised	1	8	10	8	2
Pericarditis, acute septic	-	1	-	-	1
Peritonitis, acute, diffuse, septic	1	1	5	4	3
Pleurisy, acute, diffuse, septic	1	3	-	6	3
Pneumonia, acute septic	-	3	5	3	1
Pyæmia, including joint-ill	3	5	46	2	8
Septicaemia or toxæmia	5	14	11	7	20
Swine erysipelas, acute	-	-	-	-	12
Tumours	-	4	1	1	-
Uraemia	-	-	-	-	2
Tuberculosis, generalised	-	1	-	-	1
Other causes	1	2	19	6	8
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Total 1963	19	75	149	86	91
Percentage	1.07	2.35	0.89	0.45	0.64
Total 1962	7	47	118	57	47
Percentage	0.44	1.50	0.62	0.27	0.43

Carcases and Offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle ex. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,782	3,187	16,686	19,255	14,138
Number inspected	1,782	3,187	16,683	19,207	14,138
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	19	74	149	86	90
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	478	1,310	532	1,749	3,517
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	27.89	43.43	4.08	9.55	25.51
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	7	-	-	268
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.17	0.25	-	-	1.90
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	16	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	10	15	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Cysticercus Bovis.

Cysticercus Bovis is the cystic form of human taeniasis (tapeworm in man) and cattle inspected were subjected to routine examination of the head, tongue and heart. Twenty-six cases of cysticercus bovis were found, the location of the cysts being as shown below:-

Head (external and/or internal masseter muscles or pterygoid muscle)	21
Heart	3
Head (masseter muscles), heart and carcass muscles	2
	<hr/> 26 <hr/>

Twenty-five cases affected with localised cysticercus bovis were submitted to cold storage at premises within the Borough and kept at the prescribed temperatures before release for consumption. The remaining carcass was totally rejected for other reasons.

The incidence of cysticercus bovis in cattle examined was as follows:-

1963	0.52 per cent (26 cases)
1962	0.63 per cent (30 cases)

Laboratory facilities.

The facilities of the Public Health Laboratory, which is under the direction of Dr. G.H. Tee, are available for the examination of specimens from carcasses. Two hundred and thirty-six specimens from ninety-nine carcasses were submitted in 1963, together with one hundred and sixty-one swabs from the caeca of calves.

I should like to record my thanks to Dr. Tee for his help, which is always readily given on meat inspection and other public health problems.

9. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

Nineteen slaughtermen employed at the local slaughterhouses were licensed to slaughter or stun cattle, sheep, pigs and goats with a mechanically operated instrument of the captive bolt pistol type or an electrically operated instrument (electrolethalor.) No licences to slaughter horses within the Borough have been issued.

10. WATER SUPPLIES.

Routine samples are taken from distribution points in addition to samples of the source and from the reservoirs taken by the Water Engineer. One hundred and sixty-six samples of the mains supply taken by the public health inspectors were satisfactory. Seven unsatisfactory samples indicated a local pollution of the distribution system and to obviate any danger the Water Engineer increased the chlorine dosage.

Pollution of the source due to the overflowing of a sewer about 200 yards from the well is referred to earlier. It was successfully counteracted by chlorination. The incident served to underline the need for continuous chlorination and to control development in the area surrounding the well.

Twenty-nine houses (population 60) and thirty-nine caravans (population 75) are served by external standpipes. In all other dwelling houses the supply is taken indoors.

11. DRAINAGE.

Two hundred and twenty-nine visits were made to inspect and test new drains. Two hundred and twenty-four visits were made to inspect and test old drains.

Only a small number of premises are not connected to the main sewerage system, less than forty being served by cesspool or septic tank. Twelve pail closets were converted to water closets and only three pail closets now remain in the Borough.

A second series of samples covering a week's production was taken from the Dorchester Brewery and this completed the sampling under the trade effluent survey. Early in 1964 the Consultant Engineers were preparing their report.

12. CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

One notice was received of proposals to instal a new furnace to which the Clean Air Act, 1956 applies.

Two complaints of smoke nuisance were received and dealt with.

13. FACTORIES.

The table on page 29 shows the number of factories on the Council's register and details of the inspections made.

Notification was received during the year of five outworkers who were employed in their own homes making wearing apparel or nets. The notifications in the "August" list are indicated in the table on page 30.

14. CARAVANS.

One residential site for thirty caravans and five individual residential sites were licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act. The licence conditions were based on the Model Standards prepared by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Preparations were commenced by the Council for a site for twenty residential and ten touring caravans.

FACTORIES ON THE COUNCIL'S REGISTER AND DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	4	1	-
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	86	9	3	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding outworkers' premises)	4	-	-	-
Total:	105	13	4	-

FACTORIES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4	4	-	2	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 - PART VIII
(OUTWORK)

Nature of work	Section 133		Section 134			
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel: making etc., cleaning and washing	2	-	-	-	-	-
Nets other than wire nets	#	-	-	-	-	-
All other types of outwork	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	-	-	-	-	-

Notifications of 3 other workers were received at another time during 1963.

15. RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's rodent control service was continued on the lines of the scheme approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Difficulties were experienced in obtaining and retaining a suitable rodent operator. No charge is made for the destruction by the Council of rats and mice, except in the case of business premises.

In March test baiting of sewers was undertaken at fifty-three manholes, the bait being consumed by rats at thirteen manholes. A maintenance treatment was also carried out at twenty-one manholes and eighteen manholes were found to be infested. In September further maintenance treatment was undertaken at twenty-seven manholes, the bait being consumed by rats at nine manholes.

	Local Authority Premises	Dwelling Houses inc.L.A. Houses	All other Premises inc.Trade Premises	Agri culture	Total
Total number of properties	15	3,727	924	21	4,687
Number of properties inspected:					
(a) Notification	13	53	15	1	82
(b) Survey	3	48	14	3	68
(c) Otherwise	1	1	1	-	3
Number of properties found to be infested:					
(a) Rats	9	32	12	1	54
(b) Mice	3	3	4	-	10
Number of properties treated by the L.A.	12	35	15	1	63

16. VERMINOUS PREMISES.

During the year twenty-one premises were disinfested.

17. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Sewer swabs are kept in the high and low level sewers near the disposal works to indicate the presence of typhoid and paratyphoid infections. Immediately a typhoid infection was detected swabs were placed at several points on the system and changed twice or three times each week in an attempt to pin-point the source.

18. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Under the above Act five premises in which upholstery is undertaken are registered by the Council. Premises within the Borough are not used for the manufacture or storage of rag flock. No visits of inspection or sampling under this Act were made during the year.

19. DEALERS IN OLD METALS.

Six dealers in old metals are registered by the Council under the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. No visits of inspection were made during the year by your public health inspectors.

20. PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

At the beginning of the year fifty-five licences were renewed in respect of existing petroleum installations.

Of ninety-seven visits made under the Petroleum Acts, eighty-six were to licensed installations and eleven to new or proposed installations.

21. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Two shops were licensed by the Council under the above Act for the sale of pet animals.

